In the claims

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) A coin mechanism comprising:

at least one coin tube, each of which stores coins of a respective denomination;

a dispenser for controlling the dispensing of coins from the at least one coin tube; and

a coin mechanism controller suitable for connection to a controller in an automatic transaction system so as to receive change dispense signals from the automatic transaction system controller indicating the form of dispensing change to a customer, wherein the coin mechanism controller, when connected to the automatic transaction system controller, serves as an interface between the automatic transaction system controller and the dispenser, wherein the coin mechanism controller is programmed to monitor the change dispense signals from the automatic transaction system controller, to accumulate values corresponding to the monitored signals, to re-determine coin denominations in which the change is to be dispensed by taking into account the distribution and denominations of coins in the at least one coin tube, and to control the dispenser to dispense change from the at least one coin tube only after no further change dispense signal is received for at least a specified duration following the previous change dispense signal.

11-17. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) A method of providing change from an automatic transaction system comprising:

generating change dispense signals corresponding to the number and denomination of coins in which the change is to be dispensed;

receiving the change dispense signals in a coin mechanism controller;

monitoring the coin dispense signals received in the coin mechanism controller;

accumulating values corresponding to the monitored signals;

re-determining the number and denomination of coins in which the change is to be dispensed by taking into account the distribution and denominations of coins in coin tubes associated with the coin mechanism;

generating new change dispense signals based on the step of re-determining to control the dispenser to dispense change from the coin tubes only after no further coin dispense signal is received by the coin mechanism controller for at least a specified duration following the previously received change dispense signal.

22-45. (Canceled)

46. (Previously presented) The coin mechanism of claim 10 wherein the coin mechanism controller is programmed to re-determine the number and denomination of coins in which the change is to be dispensed when the set of available coin denominations in the at least one coin tube differs from the set of coin denominations which the automatic transaction system controller is programmed to handle.

47. (Previously presented) The coin mechanism of claim 10 wherein the coin mechanism controller is programmed to re-determine the number and denomination of coins in

which the change is to be dispensed when the set of available coin denominations in the at least one coin tube differs from the coin denominations corresponding to the change dispense signals received from the automatic transaction system.

48. (Previously presented) A coin mechanism according to claim 10 suitable for connection to an automatic transaction system controller capable of providing signals indicating the number and denomination of coins in which change is to be dispensed using three different coin denominations, wherein the coin mechanism comprises four coin tubes for storing, respectively, coins of four different denominations.

49. (Previously presented) A coin mechanism according to claim 10 suitable for connection to an automatic transaction system controller capable of providing signals indicating the number and denomination of coins in which change is to be dispensed using three different coin denominations, wherein the coin mechanism comprises two coin tubes for storing coins of a first denomination and two coin tubes for storing coins of a second denomination.

50. (Currently amended) A coin mechanism according to claim 10 suitable for connection to an automatic transaction system controller capable of providing signals indicating the number and denomination of coins in which change is to be dispensed using three different coin denominations, wherein the coin mechanism comprises four coin tubes each of which is for storing coins of a single, respective, denomination.

51. (Previously presented) The coin mechanism of claim 50 wherein the three coin denominations are U.S. nickels, dimes and quarters, and wherein the four coin denominations are U.S. nickels, dimes, quarters and one-dollar coins.

52. (Previously presented) The coin mechanism of claim 10 wherein the coin mechanism controller is programmed to re-determine the number and denomination of coins in which the change is to be dispensed using as many available higher denomination coins as possible.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein re-determining occurs when the set of available coin denominations in the coin tubes differs from the set of coin denominations corresponding to the signals received by the coin mechanism controller.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein re-determining comprises re-determining the number and denomination of coins in which the change is to be dispensed using as many available higher denomination coins as possible.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein generating change dispense signals includes generating signals corresponding to four quarters, and wherein dispensing includes dispensing a single one-dollar coin.